

Blessing #2
THE MODEL BLESSING

Num. 6²⁴ ““The Lord bless you and keep you; ²⁵ the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; ²⁶ the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.””

In 1347 bubonic plague killed 25 million people. One of the first symptoms was often a sneeze. It meant that within a few hours or days they would be dead. Those who would hear the sneeze would gasp and say, “God bless you!” This history gives a meaningful background to the aspect of blessing.

God gave Moses this blessing to have Aaron bless Israel after the exodus from Egypt. The blessing consist of 6 parts.

1. His COVENANT-“The Lord bless thee”-

There are 4 distinct aspects of blessing.

A. The Hebrew word for bless is **barak**.

It means “to kneel, bless or be blessed.”

Jesus Christ is the source of all of our blessings.

B. To cover with blood: It comes from Germanic root of bless and blood.

Our greatest blessing is redemption.

C. To cut covenant

D. To speak well of

2. His PROTECTION-“and keep thee”-

A. Keep in Hebrew is “shamar” meaning “to hedge around something”.

Adam was told to “keep” the garden.

B. **Jacob** promised to **keep the flocks of Laban.** Gen. 30:31

It meant to “**keep safe, to preserve, and protect.**”

C. Shamar also means “**to observe**” and “expresses the careful attention which was paid to obligations of a covenant, to laws or statutes.

We are not only imparting safety, and protection but **guardianship** in the covenant between the Lord and other believers.

3. His **FAVOR**- “The Lord make his face to shine upon thee”-

A. This favor implies the **defeat of our enemies** by the hand of God.

Psa. 31 ¹⁵ My times *are* in thy hand: deliver me from the hand of mine enemies, and from them that persecute me. ¹⁶ Make thy face to shine upon thy servant: save me for thy mercies' sake.
NIV

B. This favor implies the **wisdom of God.**

Ecc. 8 1...a man's wisdom makes his face to shine...
God is light! He is all wisdom.

4. His **GRACE**-“And be gracious unto thee...”

A. **Grace enables a person to be who they are in Christ.**

1Co. 15 10 Paul said “By the grace of God I am what I am.

B. **Grace is the door of salvation-**

Eph. 2 8 For by grace are you saved through faith...

C. **Grace gives us power to endure trials.**

Paul asked God to remove his “thorn in the flesh” and the Lord responded

2Co. 12 9 My grace is sufficient for you; for my strength is made perfect in weakness.

D. **Grace is the door through which we receive the gifts of the Spirit.**

1Co. 12 ⁴ Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.
KJV

Gifts in Greek is **Charisma** - 5 grace or gifts denoting extraordinary powers, distinguishing certain Christians and enabling them to serve the church of Christ, the reception of

which is due to the power of divine grace operating on their souls by the Holy Spirit.

¹ Enhanced Strong's Lexicon

The gifts of the spirit are graces!

5. His **PRESENCE**-“The Lord lift his countenance upon thee”-

A. Joy

Acts 2 ²⁸ Thou hast made known to me the ways of life; thou shalt make me full of joy with thy countenance. KJV
The NIV says instead of “countenance”, “presence”.

B. Gladness

Psa. 21 ⁶ For thou hast made him most blessed for ever: thou hast made him exceeding glad with thy countenance. KJV
Again the NIV uses the word presence instead of countenance.

6. His **PEACE**-“And give thee peace”

A. Peace with God

Romans 5 Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, NIV

B. Peace with ourselves

John 14 ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.
NIV

C. Peace with those around us

Pro. 16 ⁷ When a man's ways are pleasing to the Lord, he makes even his enemies live at peace with him.

Psa. 80 ⁷ Restore us, O God Almighty; make your face shine upon us, that we may be saved. NIV

¹Strong, J. 1996. *The exhaustive concordance of the Bible : Showing every word of the test of the common English version of the canonical books, and every occurrence of each word in regular order.* (electronic ed.) . Woodside Bible Fellowship.: Ontario
a Or let us